## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 /069 W

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R 240845Z DEC 74 FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5020 INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJ: DAYAN ON ABU RODEIS

- 1. WE BELIEVE THAT DEPT WILL BE INTERESTED TO NOTE FOLLOWING IDEAS RE ROLE OF ABU RODEIS IN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS ATTRIBUTED TO FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN BY MAARIV'S POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH HARIF.
- 2. IN HIS REGULAR WEEKEND COLUMN DECEMBER 20, HARIF STATED THAT DAYAN "HAD ONCE SPOKEN IN PUBLIC" ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT ABU RODEIS COULD BE RETURNED TO EGYPT IN FRAMEWORK OF INTERIM SETTLEMENT, AND ALLEGEDLY HAD REPEATED THIS IDEA TO SECRETARY DURING HIS RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT.
- 3. IN DECEMBER 23 MAARIV, HARIF CORRECTED EARLIER STORY AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

4. SOURCES CLOSE TO DAYAN SAY HE DOES NOT THINK ISRAEL SHOULD RETURN ABU RODEIS UNDER A PARTIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SETTLEMENT; ALL HE HAS SAID ON THE SUBJECT

PRESUPPOSES AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT. HE STATED SO FORCEFULLY IN THE KNESSET WHEN HE WAS STILL MINISTER OF DEFENSE.

5. SOME GOVERNMENT CIRCLES, WHO THINK IN TERMS
OF RETURNING ABU RODEIS 'SHOULD NOT ONLY EGYPT, BUT
ALSO THE US PRESS FOR IT', HAVE BEEN
USING DAYAN'S REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT TO SHOW
THAT EVEN HE IS IN FAVOR OF RETURNING THE OIL
FIELDS

6. JERUSALEM CIRCLES SAY THAT EVEN DURING HIS LATEST TALK WITH DR KISSINGER A FEW WEEKS AGO, DAYAN SAID HE THOUGHT ABU RODEIS COULD BE GIVEN BACK, BUT ACCORDING TO DAYAN'S CONFIDANTS, THIS ALSO REFERRED TO AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT.

7. IN THE DIFFERENT TALKS IN JERUSALEM AND WASHINGTON, DAYAN'S REMARKS HAVE BEEN MADE USE OF BY THOSE WHO FELT AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO COLLAPSE BECASE OF ABU RODEIS, SINCE THE US WOULD BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE TO SUPPLY ISRAEL ALL THE OIL IT NEEDS. THIS IS APPARENTLY WHY DAYAN FELT IT NECESSARY TO MAKE CLEAR WHERE HE STANDS ON ABU RODEIS, SO THAT JERUSALEM POLICY MAKERS WOULD NOT RELY ON HIS STATEMENTS WHEN TAKING DECISIONS IN THE MATTER. END TEXT.

8. AS HARIF NOTED, DAYAN HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED ABU RODEIS ISSUE EARLIER THIS YEAR. ON MARCH 10, 1974, SPEAKING IN KNESSET, DAYAN SAID THAT HE COULD NOT FORESEE ABU RODEIS OILFIELDS FALLING WITHIN ISRAEL'S FINAL SECURITY LINE AND THAT ISRAEL SHOULD NOT INSIST ON KEEPING OILFIELDS. (TEL AVIV 1431) HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT HOWEVER CLARIFY AT THAT TIME WHETHER HE BELIEVED RETURN OF ABU RODEIS SHOULD BE IN CONTEXT OF INTERIM OR OVERALL SETTLEMENT.

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9. COMMENT: IT IS LIKELY THAT HARIF'S REFERENCE TO
"SOURCES CLOSE TO DAYAN" (PARA 3) MEANS DAYAN HIMSELF
WHO APPEARS TO HAVE DEVELOPED A PROCLIVITY
FOR STATEMENTS AT VARIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY WHICH
LATER REQUIRE "CLARIFICATION".
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## Message Attributes

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